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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Wick

DATE: 3-28-67

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT"
BY WILLIAM MANCHESTER

By memorandum dated March 24, 1967, the captioned book was reviewed in which it was pointed out that, among other things, Manchester had charged that immediately after President Kennedy's assassination the FBI had assigned fifty agents to a crash investigation, wrote a "skimpy report," and then "leaked the report to a news magazine." Relative to the "leak," Mr. Tolson has asked, "What about this?"

A review of our files reflects that the Bureau's first report was completed on December 9, 1963. Through Deputy Attorney General Katzenbach, copies were sent to members of the Warren Commission, the Department of Justice and the Secret Service. In a memorandum from Mr. DeLoach to Mr. Mohr on that date it was pointed out that the Bureau told Mr. Katzenbach that it was "charging him with the safety and handling of these reports inasmuch as we have discharged our duties, other than the continuing investigation."

Manchester, in making his leak charge, is manufacturing a falsehood. This is consistent with the other snide and inaccurate remarks in his book about the FBI. The FBI did not leak the results of its investigation and did everything it could to maintain the security of its reports. Of course, the press was full of all kinds of speculation as to what the FBI was or was not finding in its investigation. Manchester offers no proof of his allegation which is just a wild statement on his part.

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NOT RECORDED
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RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Wick

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